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Addendum

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1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Introduction

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) is an independent statutory authority established by the Commonwealth Parliament in 1990 under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989 (ATSIC Act). ATSIC is a unique, decentralized organization which advocates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues nationally and internationally, advises the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, and delivers programmes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Through ATSIC's regional councils and the Board of Commissioners, elected indigenous representatives are brought into the process of government. These representatives have power over decision-making on policy and funding. Supporting the elected arm is an administration staffed by public servants. ATSIC's vision is of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities freely exercising their legal, economic, social, cultural and political rights.

ATSIC takes an active role in advancing the indigenous agenda, and indigenous rights, on the national and international stage. It is the only national indigenous organization that has the resources and the influence to do this.

The Board of ATSIC consists of a Chairperson and 17 Commissioners and is a representative institution elected by 35 regional councils comprising 387 Councillors throughout Australia. The regional councils are themselves elected by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The goal of ATSIC is "to secure the empowerment of our people so that, through self-determination, we can make the decisions that affect our lives and share in Australia's land, wealth and resources, contributing equitably to the nation's economic, social and political life, with full recognition of our indigenous cultural heritage as the first Australians".

ATSIC has an organizational commitment to undertaking and promoting programmes to further international human rights and indigenous rights. ATSIC's international agenda is set out to promote, protect and pursue the recognition of the collective rights of indigenous peoples through the representation of indigenous Australian perspectives at international forums and the development and monitoring of international standards. This involves maintaining relationships with peak indigenous organizations, liaising with government departments, reporting on Australia's compliance with international conventions and contributing to national reports to world forums.

Participation

ATSIC actively participates in, and provides significant support to indigenous non-governmental organizations in Australia to enable them to participate in, important meetings of the United Nations, especially those related to indigenous rights. Since June 1995, participation has included:

(a) The United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations, July, Geneva: ATSIC delegation of nationally elected representatives backed by administration staff, and grants to support attendance by indigenous non-

governmental organizations — 11 indigenous peoples' organization (IPO) representatives in 1995 (thirteenth session), 7 in 1996 (fourteenth session), 6 in 1997 (fifteenth session), 5 in 1998 (sixteenth session);

(b) 1995-1996 Technical Meeting on the Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

(c) The Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994 (on the rights of indigenous peoples). Geneva: ATSIC delegation of nationally elected representatives backed by administration staff, engagement of subject specialist consultant, and funding of assistance to indigenous non-governmental organizations to enable their participation — three IPOs in 1995, two in 1996, four in 1997, five in 1998;

(d) The International Workshop on a Permanent Forum for Indigenous People in the United Nations System: first workshop, Copenhagen, June 1995 — supported attendance by one indigenous non-government organization; second workshop, Santiago, Chile, May 1997 — ATSIC delegation of nationally elected representatives and funding assistance to two indigenous non-governmental organizations to attend;

(e) United Nations Human Rights Procedures Conference, Sydney, June 1995: supported attendance by one indigenous peoples' organization;

(f) Forum 95 and Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, August 1995: ATSIC delegation and support to indigenous peoples' organizations to attend;

(g) The inter-sessional workshop on traditional knowledge and intellectual property (Madrid, November 1997) prior to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity: ATSIC delegation and funding grants to two indigenous peoples' organizations to attend.

Cooperation

ATSIC's annual contributions to the general United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People have also been viewed favourably by the United Nations as evidence of ATSIC's support for its work. ATSIC has provided $30,000 (Australian dollars) annually since 1994-1995 to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations.

ATSIC prepared an information kit on the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people for use by indigenous peoples throughout the world. ATSIC has also commissioned and published an analysis of the draft declaration.

ATSIC liaises with the United Nations through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva and the national office of the United Nations Information Services in Sydney, Australia, in relation to obtaining information about international United Nations forums and meetings that concern indigenous issues and forwarding information about issues of concern to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

ATSIC has held consultation meetings with national peak indigenous people's organizations: two in 1995-1996, two in 1996-1997 and two in 1997-1998 on international human and indigenous rights issues.

Other relevant activities

Comments of ATSIC were provided to the Australian Government for the Open-Ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations, third session, 8-19 January 1996 (see E/1995/83/Add.1 of 6 June 1995, entitled "Report of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations on its second session").

In 1995-1996, ATSIC was the national agency responsible for coordinating, managing and monitoring the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People in Australia. Owing to budget cuts in 1996-1997, expenditure on decade-related coordination and specific programme activities was severely restricted. Activities included:

(a) Consultation with peak indigenous peoples' organizations and government departments (1995-1996);

(b) Meetings of an Indigenous National Advisory Committee for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People to coordinate the Australian programme of action (1995-1996);

(c) Meetings of a national government interdepartmental committee on the International Decade (1995-1996);

(d) A consultancy to develop an information package on the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people including a plain English version of the draft declaration, a detailed analysis of the draft declaration, and a document outlining the historical development of the draft declaration (1995-1996);

(e) Funding an indigenous artist to design a national logo for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1995-1996) and launch in 1996-1997;

(f) Launch, national dissemination and international dissemination through the United Nations, of an information package of the draft declaration (at Old Parliament House on 16 September 1996), containing also information sheets on indigenous peoples of the world and the involvement of indigenous peoples in the United Nations system.

ATSIC has contributed written submissions to:

(a) Australia's report under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1995-1996);

(b) Considerations concerning the ratification of International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 (1995-1996);

(c) Briefings on the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1995-1996);

(d) Australia's fourth report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1996-1997);

(e) Australia's report under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1997-1998);

(f) Drafting of Australia's report under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1997-1998).

ATSIC has provided input through Australian Government processes to the following sessions of the Commission on Human Rights: fifty-second (1996), fifty-third (1997) and fifty-fourth (1998).

ATSIC also hosts a number of international visitors and indigenous delegations each year.

ATSIC is particularly cognizant of the benefit of shared knowledge across international boundaries. It has participated in, funded indigenous Australian participation in, or provided sponsorship towards, a large number of international meetings.

2. CHANGE

(Special consultative status granted 1987)

Introduction

CHANGE's main aim is to promote the recognition of the inalienable human rights and dignity of women and to publicize their abuse, whether by the State, commercial interests or individuals. This is undertaken through publications, seminars, conferences, capacitation, training and consultancy services.

CHANGE is not a membership organization, but has a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland-based advisory group, an international advisory group, and supporters in many countries, and works in collaboration with numerous other international non-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, depending on the project.

CHANGE received funding during the period in question from the European Commission, the British Council and the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office for a variety of activities, and contributed a value of $300,000 to the work of other organizations.

The present report covers CHANGE's preparatory work for, participation in, and follow-up to two world conferences and the Commission for Human Rights.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and conferences

Activities were as follows:

(a) 1994:

(i) In preparation for the World Summit for Social Development, CHANGE organized a non-governmental meeting (with OXFAM and others) to insert the gender and human rights dimensions into the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development. This was conveyed through government and other advocates to the third session of the

Preparatory Committee for the Summit, and CHANGE was represented at the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee;

(ii) CHANGE also organized a day conference on follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development;

(iii) In preparation for the Fourth World Conference on women, CHANGE was represented at:

a. the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory body for the Conference in New York;

b. the ECE Regional Meeting in Vienna, contributing to the formation of the NGO Steering Committee; organizing a workshop on "Women and Global Governance" during the NGO Forum, and a debriefing for United Kingdom non-governmental organizations; and also issued a summary of the regional declaration;

c. the African Regional Meeting, in Dakar, having held an orientation and lobby training session in advance for Senegalese non-governmental organizations;

(iv) CHANGE published a Guide to the Fourth World Conference on Women for free and open use, adapted by OXFAM for its own worldwide circulation;

(v) CHANGE also organized regional Conference lobby training/United Nations Conference simulation sessions (to enable women to lobby on issues of concern to them from within the context of their own countries) with the British Council in East, West and Southern Africa, the Middle East and West Asia, reaching some 500 participants from 45 countries in 1994 and 1995;

(b) 1995:

(i) World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, and NGO Forum. CHANGE was represented by the Director, who took part in the non-governmental organization human rights caucus. Within the Forum, she organized joint panels with Anti-Slavery International and OXFAM;

(ii) Fourth World Conference on Women:

a. Preparations: CHANGE organized three United Kingdom Parliamentary meetings to brief parliamentarians and non-governmental organizations, forming the United Kingdom "Beijing Action Group", and the Director briefed the European Parliament in Strasbourg. She was also adviser to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) World Service on the World Conference, and to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the British Council, the Women's National Commission and a range of other organizations, including the ECE NGO Working Group on Women in Geneva, whose European Platform for Action drafting meeting she chaired. She was also team leader for workshops in China itself, organized by the Great Britain China Centre, the British Council and the United Kingdom Overseas Development Administration, in 1994 and 1995, to explain what issues non-governmental organizations work on in different countries, how an NGO Forum is organized and how gender should be integrated into development. Three special open meetings were held in immediate preparation in the United

Kingdom: on women in Eastern Europe, women's human rights, and a conference and NGO Forum simulation;

b. Participation: for the Fourth World Conference on Women itself, CHANGE was contracted by the European Commission, Human Rights and Democratisation Unit, to identify, enable and capacitate 40 women from Eastern Europe to take part in the Conference and NGO Forum. The countries or areas involved were: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and Kosovo. A United Kingdom/China/East European support team were also taken to Beijing and introduced to the United Nations system. During the course of the NGO Forum, CHANGE also organized a conference orientation, and two workshops on using the United Nations human rights system (with Judge Elizabeth Evatt, member of the Human Rights Committee) and on women and global governance/United Nations system. Both of these were supported with documents published under those titles (with the assistance of the British Council and European Commission);

c. Follow-up: contacts with the East European participants were continued, through a special additional page, "Out of Beijing", in the CHANGE *Newsletter*, and through invitations to them to take part in the human rights training seminars, 1996 and 1997 (and the International Conference on Violence, Abuse and Women's Citizenship, held in Brighton in 1996, of which CHANGE was a sponsor/organizer); the Director also conducted a post-Conference training workshop in Madras, India, with grass-roots groups and women's studies, development and other non-governmental organizations, to discuss the integration of the Platform for Action into India's National Policy on Women; CHANGE staff contributed to three Council of Europe activities in Bucharest, Budapest and Strasbourg in the aftermath of the Fourth World Conference on Women; ECE Subregional Follow-up Meeting to the Conference, Bucharest: CHANGE was represented;

(iii) Fifty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva: CHANGE was represented and made an intervention on servile marriage;

(c) 1996:

(i) CHANGE organized a National Day Conference on "What the Platform for Action means to you" to make each of the critical areas of concern relevant to the national situation. A report was published within 10 days to contribute to the national consultations conducted by government;

(ii) Fortieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York: CHANGE was represented;

(iii) Fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights: CHANGE organized a training programme for women with respect to using the United Nations human rights system, in cooperation with Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE). Twelve women from areas in armed conflict gathered in Geneva for a basic grounding in human rights, observing the Commission on Human Rights in session, taking part in the women's

caucus, and learning from practice and participation rather than theory alone. This was followed up by a meeting in Kampala, Uganda. CHANGE was represented at the former Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights);

(iv) ECE General Meeting: CHANGE was represented and made an intervention on mainstreaming follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(d) 1997:

(i) Forty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York: CHANGE was represented;

(ii) Fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights: the second two-week CHANGE orientation and training course, in collaboration with the ECE NGO Working Group on Women, drawing 15 women from areas in armed conflict in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Apart from participating in a law session and other sessions, they were introduced to thematic and country Special Rapporteurs;

(e) 1998:

(i) Forty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York: CHANGE was represented and organized three panels, on women and economic rights, democracy, and culture and tradition. The joint CHANGE/British Council/United Kingdom European Union (EU) Presidency exhibition, entitled "Women, Men, Democracy and Governance" was launched and exhibited in the United Nations Secretariat;

(ii) Fifty-fourth session of the Commission for Human Rights, Geneva: the exhibition "Women, Men, Democracy and Governance" was launched and exhibited in the Palais des Nations.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

In 1996, the Director was invited by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to take part in a panel on Governance in 1994 and became a regular consultant to UNDP on gender and governance issues, gender and poverty, and gender mainstreaming, 1995, 1996 and 1997. (The Director is undertaking research on women in the United Nations system.)

Participants from the training seminars in Geneva in 1996 and 1997 were introduced to UNHCR through the gender focal point.

Other relevant activities

The Director was a participant in the Expert Group on the Integration of the Human Rights of Women held by the Centre for Human Rights, Geneva, in June 1995 in preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

The Director was a participant in the Expert Group on Gender and Armed Conflict held by INSTRAW/Division for the Advancement of Women, Santo Domingo, in 1996.

As a member of the Commonwealth Expert Group on the Integration of Gender in 1994-1995, the Director contributed to the Commonwealth input to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Platform for Action. She also prepared an analysis of national machineries for the advancement of women and a review of Commonwealth countries' implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The Director took part in two conferences on the future of the United Nations system at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Centre, Wilton Park, in 1996 and 1997 attended by, inter alia, Advisers to the Secretary-General, the Administrator of UNDP, Permanent Representatives to the United Nations.

The Director, Georgina Ashworth, published *Gender and Governance: an Agenda for Change* with the UNDP Gender in Development Monograph Series (No. 3) (1994 and revised 1996). This is used in universities as well as in the United Nations system.

The Director took part in the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference on political partnership between women and men in New Delhi, India (and other similar events); IPU has a special relationship with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat on democracy.

3. Centre of Economic and Social Studies of the Third World

(Special consultative status granted 1987)

Introduction

The Centre of Economic and Social Studies of the Third World (CEESTEM) has the following goals:

(a) To carry out studies tending to define an order of priorities respecting the most urgent problems of the countries of the third world, and to check the economic development process, taking into consideration the uneven distribution of wealth and the insufficient participation in world commerce;

(b) To create a system of exchange of experiences in economic, cultural, scientific and technological subjects and a web of information of possibilities of this group of countries, to promote the use of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States.

The Centre of Economic and Social Studies of the Third World attends the annual meeting of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat (DPI), in its headquarters in New York and participates in the work of the local office of DPI in Mexico in respect of conferences and declarations.

The Centre also cooperates closely with UNDP in Mexico City, as well as with DPI regarding local problems.

Research programmes in different areas to help the United Nations during 1995-1998

These programmes were in the following areas:

(a) Latin America in international forums;

(b) The agricultural policy in the United States of America and Mexico;

(c) The effects of globalization in the agricultural sector;

(d) The new informatic technology;

(e) The satellite communications in Latin America;

(f) The growth of the external debt in Latin America;

(g) The restructuration of the world economy;

(h) The analysis of bilateral relations between Mexico and the United States of America;

(i) Relations between the Latin American countries from the economical, political and social points of view.

Conferences and seminars in the period 1995-1998

These conferences and seminars included:

(a) Conference on traditional medicine and medicinal plants (CEESTEM, Mexico, 1995);

(b) Conference on the goal of work: new technologies; the birth of a new era (CEESTEM, Mexico, 1995);

(c) Attendance at the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, New York, 1995;

(d) Round-table conference about globalization and human rights in Latin America, Mexico City, 1996;

(e) Conference on the exclusive economic zone in the countries of the third world: economic and political analysis and its results in Latin America, Mexico City, 1996; Conference about the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, from the point of view of international law: an option for development, Mexico City, 1996;

(f) Conference about education and development, Mexico, 1997;

(g) Economic cooperation in developing countries;

(h) Conference about the pacific solution of the conflicts in Latin America (CEESTEM, Mexico);

(i) Globalization and sovereignty (CEESTEM, Mexico, 1997);

(j) Conference about the reform of the State, in the environment of world transformations, organized by the Minister of Reform of the State of Brazil and the United Nations, Brasilia, 1998;

(k) Seminar on cultural and social action on the border with the United States of America.

4. International Council for Adult Education

(General consultative status granted 1991)

Introductory statement

The International Council for Adult Education (ICAE) is a global partnership of adult learners and adult educators and their organizations, or others who use adult learning as a principal means for performing their work, and of adult learners and others who support these aims. ICAE promotes adult and lifelong learning as a necessary component of the process through which people are able to live in independent, sustainable, democratic and participatory societies. Adult and lifelong learning are deeply linked to social, economic and political justice; equality of gender relations; the universal right to learn; living in harmony with the environment; respect for human rights; recognition of cultural diversity; peace; and the active involvement of women and men in decisions affecting their lives. ICAE has been the major non-governmental organization serving the field of adult education and of participatory development. It represents 704 literacy, adult and lifelong learning non-governmental organizations from Africa, Arab States, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America and North America. ICAE and some of its regional members are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, UNESCO and UNICEF.

Previously secure sources such as the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway (Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation) (NORAD), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (Danish Agency for Development Assistance) (DANIDA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland continue to support ICAE on a multi-year basis.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

Participation encompassed the following:

(a) ICAE President together with a large delegation of representatives from ICAE's networks participated in the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, Denmark, 6-12 March 1995;

(b) ICAE President, Executive Director and coordinators of ICAE's programmes participated in the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, 29 August-15 September 1995;

(c) Coordinator of the ICAE Peace and Human Rights Education Programme attended the Economic and Social Council working meetings on NGO organizations at the Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria, 1995;

(d) Coordinator of the ICAE Peace and Human Rights Education Programme attended the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland, 15-22 February 1996;

(e) Coordinator of the ICAE Peace and Human Rights Education Programme participated at the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Geneva, Switzerland, October 1996;

(f) ICAE President, General Coordinator of the ICAE Gender and Education Office (GEO) and ICAE Communications Coordinator attended the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, United States of America, 10-21 March 1997;

(g) GEO Coordinator organized a panel on Learning Gender Justice at the United Nations Forum on Women, New York, United States of America, March 1997.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Such cooperation is described directly below:

(a) ICAE President participated in the Expert Consultative Meeting organized by UNESCO, Paris, France, 11-13 October 1995;

(b) The ICAE network in Latin America prepared a presentation for the 1995 UNICEF Consultation on Education for All, New York, United States of America, 10-13 October 1995;

(c) Coordinator of ICAE Learning For Environmental Action Programme (LEAP) participated in the UNICEF Canada National Education for Development Seminar, Toronto, Canada, January 1995;

(d) ICAE representative attended the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, March 1996;

(e) ICAE's regional network participated in the first UNESCO Arab Region NGO Consultation, Amman, Jordan, 10-14 March 1996;

(f) General Coordinator of the ICAE Gender and Education Office attended the ECLAC Seventh Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, Chile, 19-21 November 1997;

(g) ICAE Latin America's Vice-President attended the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the UNESCO Fifth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA V) and participated in the drafting and editing of the final regional document, Brasilia, Brazil, January 1997;

(h) ICAE President and secretariat, Programme Coordinators, representatives from ICAE networks and members participated in the UNESCO Fifth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA V), Hamburg, Germany, 14-18 July 1997;

(i) General Coordinator of the ICAE Gender and Education Office attended UNESCO International Seminar-Workshop on Promoting the Empowerment of Women through Adult Education, Chiangmai, Thailand, 24-28 February 1997;

(j) ICAE President participated at the UNESCO's World Conference on Higher Education, Paris, France, 5-9 October 1998;

(k) ICAE President and members of ICAE's regional networks participated in regional and subregional follow-up meetings to UNESCO CONFINTEA V in Mexico City, Mexico, 26-27 January 1998; Cape Town, South Africa, March 1998; Washington, D.C., United States of America, 6-8 April 1998; Botswana, 6 May 1998; Manchester, England, 17-19 May 1998; Bangkok and Hua Hin, Thailand, 8-12

June 1998; Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 22-25 June 1998; Louvain la Neuver, Belgium, 17-20 September 1998; Helsinki, Finland, 2 October 1998; Montevideo, Uruguay, 17-20 November 1998.

Relevant activities

Relevant activities encompassed the following:

(a) ICAE and its Latin American network organized four workshops at the NGO Forum on Women during the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, 3-8 September 1995;

(b) As a follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women, the ICAE Gender and Education Office launched its book entitled *Gender, Education and Popular Economy*; organized the workshop entitled "Poor Women's Empowerment"; coordinated the Poverty Day at the Latin America and the Caribbean stand; and published the booklet entitled *Platform Beijing 95: An Instrument of Action for Women*, 1995-1996;

(c) ICAE Latin America's Vice-President drafted the preparatory regional document for the Latin American and Caribbean office of UNESCO's New Horizons for Youth and Adult Education in Latin America, Santiago, Chile, 1996;

(d) ICAE President met with officials of UNDP, UNIFEM and UNICEF to assure them of ICAE's continuing interest in interacting and playing a role in the ongoing debates, discussions and activities of the non-governmental organization/international non-governmental organizations groups in the United Nations forums, New York, United States of America, 2-7 February 1995;

(e) ICAE President and members of the ICAE Contact Group participated in a special consultation of experts to formulate a draft declaration and an agenda for action for Hamburg 1997, under the auspices of the UNESCO Institute for Education, Hamburg, Germany, 28 May-1 June 1996; also in the regional consultations leading up to CONFINTEA V 1997 as planned between UNESCO and member States in Jomtien, Thailand, September 1996, and Dakar, Senegal, October 1996;

(f) Coordinator of the ICAE Learning For Environmental Action Programme (LEAP) presented a report on "Environment adult education: awareness to environmental action" at CONFINTEA V, Hamburg, Germany, 14-18 July 1997; and at its follow-up meeting in Helsignor, Denmark, 21-23 July 1997;

(g) Coordinator of the ICAE Learning For Environmental Action Programme (LEAP) participated in the international policy workshop on education and learning for sustainable consumption hosted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris, France, 14 and 15 September 1998;

(h) ICAE publicized the International Conference on Universal Rights and Human Values held to focus world attention on the vision of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Alberta, Canada, 26-29 November 1998.

5. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Aims and purposes

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists (IAJLJ) was created in 1969 as a membership association of Jewish lawyers and jurists. Its principal purpose is to contribute to the establishment of an international legal order based on the rule of law in relations between all nations and to promote respect for human rights and the equality of all peoples and States in order that they may live together in peace. IAJLJ also studies problems of particular interest to Jewish communities and to the State of Israel. It is thus mainly composed of Jewish members, while also being open to all lawyers and jurists who identify with the objects of IAJLJ, irrespective of belief, creed or any other distinction whatever. Its current membership comprises lawyers and jurists in 50 countries throughout the world, whether at the bar, on the bench, as judicial officials, legal advisers or academics.

Participation in subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council

During the reporting period following the granting of special consultative status in August 1995, the representative of IAJLJ personally attended or closely followed proceedings of the fifty-second through fifty-fourth sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the forty-seventh through fiftieth sessions of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (subsequently renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights). IAJLJ made the following oral statements to these two bodies:

(a) Commission on Human Rights:

(i) Fifty-second session: statement made on 29 March 1996 commenting on the report of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance (E/CN.4/1996/95) and recommending the adoption of a convention based on the 1981 Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;

(ii) Fifty-third session: statement made on 19 March 1997 likewise commenting on the Special Rapporteur's report on the implementation of the 1981 Declaration (E/CN.4/1997/91) and the deterioration of the overall situation in this regard in the intervening year;

(iii) Fifty-fourth session: IAJLJ was principally concerned with the reform of its agenda and contacted many delegations of the Commission on this question, having in the previous year been active in the presentation of the non-governmental organization community's written statement on this matter;

(b) Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities: IAJLJ was similarly associated with making proposals for reforming this body's working methods presented by the non-governmental organization community. Furthermore, the IAJLJ representative made oral statements to the Subcommission as follows:

(i) Forty-seventh session: statement made on 25 August 1995 on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief;

(ii) Forty-eighth session: statement made on 12 August 1996 on the role of the Subcommission in combating racism and racial discrimination and the contribution of its Working Group in promoting the implementation of the 1992 Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities;

(iii) Forty-ninth session: statements made on 12 August 1997 on the comprehensive examination of thematic issues relating to the elimination of racial discrimination, and on 27 August 1997 on terrorism and human rights.

IAJLJ participated in a seminar organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, held in Geneva from 10 to 14 November 1997, on the role of the Internet in the light of the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, intervening in the proceedings notably to contribute documentation produced in its periodical *Justice*, No. 12, of March 1997 and earlier issues, on the propagation of racist propaganda on the Internet.

IAJLJ has also closely followed developments at the sessions of the treaty bodies supervising the implementation of the human rights conventions, held in Geneva throughout the reporting period. *Justice* (No. 19 (1998), p. 23) contains an article on reporting by Israel to these bodies.

IAJLJ attended all sessions of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Its representative consulted successive Directors of the Department of International Protection of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on issues arising with respect to the grant of asylum, instances of actual or feared denial of the principle of non-refoulement and the role of non-governmental actors in various countries in creating conditions giving rise to the well-founded fear of persecution, which the competent national authorities are unable or unwilling to remove.

Consultations

Also during the period under review, IAJLJ held consultations with officials of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Thus, following the grant of consultative status to IAJLJ, its President and the Geneva representative met the Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Ibrahima Fall, early in May 1996 to introduce the IAJLJ's programme of activities in the field of human rights and to inform him of its principal preoccupations. Subsequently, following the concerns that IAJLJ had expressed in a statement which was formally adopted at its eleventh International Congress in Jerusalem on 31 December 1998 (published in *Justice* No. 20) and submitted to Mrs. Mary Robinson, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on 25 May 1999, including several matters falling directly within her competence, a meeting took place between the United Nations High Commissioner, the IAJLJ President Judge Hadassa Ben-Itto and the IAJLJ Geneva representative on 8 July 1999, at which a constructive exchange of views took place. The United Nations High Commissioner agreed to

publish an article in the IAJLJ periodical *Justice* (it appears in the January 2000 issue).

Publications

As noted above, the principal publication of IAJLJ is *Justice*. Issued quarterly, it describes the Association's activities, including its triennial congresses, international meetings and seminars. It contains articles by learned academicians, judges, practitioners and other experts on legal issues of interest to the membership as a whole, including several articles on United Nations-related matters. In addition to those cited above, these include articles on the following subjects: the inaugural statement on religious intolerance made by the IAJLJ representative at the forty-seventh session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (No. 7, p. 25); arms control and the United Nations experience in Iraq (No. 8, p. 17); report on the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights (No. 10, p. 36); dangerous censorship of a United Nations rapporteur (No. 14, p. 10); and the International Criminal Court (No. 18, p. 19).

IAJLJ will be installing its web site on the Internet. The web site, to be operational in the course of February 2001, will feature articles published in *Justice* (including those cited above), which could be supplied as required.

6. International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Existence and goals of IFACAT

The International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (IFACAT) was founded in 1987 and was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1995.

In accordance with article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, its purpose is to combat, throughout the world and by all appropriate legal means, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including capital punishment.

Composition and geographical distribution

As an international federation, IFACAT brings together national associations whose goals are compatible with its statutes.

As of late 1998, it had 19 affiliated associations and 8 in the process of becoming affiliated, as well as a number of correspondents.

International management

Mr. Patrick Byrne (Luxembourg) has been president of IFACAT since November 1998.

In addition to the President, the international bureau is made up of members from Spain, Switzerland, Canada, Togo, Mexico and France.

Independence

IFACAT is independent of all Governments and all partisan organizations.

It is financed by membership dues and grants. In exceptional cases, it might benefit from a subvention or aid in kind for an international project (colloquium or training session, for example) from a State, the European Union, the United Nations, or a Christian organization.

National Human Rights Commissions

Some of the affiliated associations participate in national human rights commissions in their areas of specialization.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, in its subsidiary organs and conferences, and in other United Nations forums

Commission on Human Rights

Each year, IFACAT attends the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and contributes to its work by presenting written and oral statements on agenda items dealing with torture and capital punishment from a geographic and thematic point of view.

In addition to other statements made jointly with other organizations or delivered orally, IFACAT's chief contributions are as follows:

1995: "Favoriser la discrimination, c'est favoriser la torture" (Promoting discrimination means promoting torture) (E/CN.4/1995/NGO/27);

"Tout faire pour juger les tortionnaires" (Spare no effort to prosecute torturers) (E/CN.4/1995/NGO/3);

1996: "La torture au service de l'économie" (Torture serves the economy) (E/CN.4/1996/NGO/36);

"Pour abolir la torture, ne pas tricher avec la démocratie" (You can't abolish torture by shortchanging democracy) (ibid.);

1997: "Defenders of Human Rights: vital actors" (E/CN.4/1997/NGO/13);

"The international criminal court: the acid test for States" (E/CN.4/1997/NGO/52);

1998: "A commitment, not a memory!" (E/CN.4/1998/NGO/68);

"Refugees call out to the conscience of the world" (E/CN.4/1998/NGO/69).

IFACAT also cooperates closely with the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, as well as with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. It sends them information, and publicizes their appeals and their annual report.

Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (formerly the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities)

Each year, IFACAT attends the sessions of the Subcommission and contributes to its work by presenting written and oral statements on agenda items dealing with torture and capital punishment.

In addition to other statements made jointly with other organizations or delivered orally, IFACAT's principal contributions are as follows:

1995: "L'abolition de la peine de mort" (The abolition of the death penalty) (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/NGO/4);

1996: "Les deux années à venir seront décisives pour la lutte contre l'impunité" (The next two years will be crucial in the struggle against impunity) (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/NGO/4);

"Quelques sacrifiés de la diplomatie" (A few victims of diplomacy) (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/NGO/3);

1997: "Torture at the heart of the judicial process" (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/NGO/8);

"Torture used to terrorize the population" (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/NGO/9).

Committees: Committee against Torture, Human Rights Committee, Committee on the Rights of the Child

IFACAT closely follows the work of these Committees and the periodic reports published by Governments. It collaborates with Committee experts and attends public meetings whenever it or its affiliated associations have information that could assist a committee in its consideration of a report. It also monitors, through the ACAT, the implementation of Committee recommendations in the field.

Working Group on the Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

IFACAT participates in the sessions and work of the Working Group (the latter is holding its eighth annual session in 1999). It submitted a comprehensive document to the Secretariat, containing comments, observations and suggestions following the first reading of the draft protocol; these proposals were taken into account in the working paper submitted by the Secretariat (E/CN.4/1994/WG.11/WP.1), which was used throughout the second reading. Another written statement was submitted for the sixth session in 1997.

Follow-up to the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 1993)

IFACAT played an active role in the Conference and is closely monitoring the implementation of the Programme of Action, in particular activities related to torture and capital punishment, the ratification of human rights treaties and the establishment of an international criminal court. It appointed ACAT (Canada) to participate in the first review of that conference, Vienna plus five, which was held in Ottawa in 1998.

Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995)

IFACAT took part in this Conference and produced a written statement entitled, "With women — from words to actions".

Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (Rome, 1998)

IFACAT put great effort into the coalition of non-governmental organizations that worked, both before and during the Conference, to bring about the decision to create a permanent international criminal court and to adopt the related statutes. Two representatives of IFACAT took part in that Conference. IFACAT continues to observe closely the work of the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court, within the framework defined in General Assembly resolution 53/105.

Cooperation with United Nations organs and specialized agencies

IFACAT collaborates with UNESCO in the implementation of human rights education programmes: at the meetings it convenes, it sometimes distributes documents provided by UNESCO. In July 1997, at a training session for African human rights trainers, Mr. Ngakoutou, chief of the UNESCO democracy unit, led a course entitled "ethnocentrism and nationalism".

Other related activities

Actions for the implementation of United Nations resolutions:

(a) Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/40 on the draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (see above);

(b) General Assembly resolution 53/105 on the establishment of an international criminal court (see above);

(c) General Assembly resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997 on the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture: IFACAT, in collaboration with other non-governmental organizations belonging to the Coalition of International Non-Governmental Organizations Against Torture (CINAT) is conducting a campaign for the universal ratification of the Convention against Torture and for the communications procedures established under articles 21 and 22 of that instrument. IFACAT urges ACAT members to celebrate the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture on June 26 in their countries.

Consultations and cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Secretariat: IFACAT provides information on funding needs to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, or itself provides funding support, in particular for specific treatment centres established by members of ACAT (Programa de Atención Integral a Sobrevivientes de la Tortura (Integrated Care Programme for Victims of Torture), Mexico; Trauma Centre, Cameroon).

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities, including financial assistance received from or provided to the United Nations, collaboration in the field, sponsorship of meetings, seminars, studies, etc.

IFACAT has been offering human rights training sessions in Africa since 1992; since 1996, it has offered a biennial cycle of programmes for African human rights trainers and leaders in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in collaboration with the Catholic University of Central Africa and the Institute of Human Rights in Lyon. The first session is devoted to practical courses and workshops; it is followed by jointly sponsored inter-sessional projects. The second session deals with the evaluation of projects and a collective review. This human rights education and inculcation programme in Africa receives support from the United Nations Secretariat, particularly in the form of texts. Courses and workshops are devoted to familiarization with United Nations human rights protection mechanisms.

IFACAT reports regularly on United Nations activities in its bulletin *FIACAT News* and in the in-depth human rights studies it publishes. It also discusses such matters in its yearly progress report, which is published in book form and sold in bookstores, as well as in its training manuals.

7. Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defence of Women's Rights

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

The Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defence of Women's Rights (CLADEM) is a regional organization for Latin America and the Caribbean that seeks to contribute to the promotion and defence of women's rights, incorporating the gender perspective into the theory and the practice of human rights. To do this, it articulates proposals for the elimination of the gender discrimination in the region. Our organization was established on 3 July 1987 in San Jose de Costa Rica and has its regional headquarters in Lima, Peru. Presently, the organization has liaisons and national connections in 17 countries of the region. CLADEM also has credited representatives in the three offices of the United Nations (New York, Vienna and Geneva) as well as in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL) (Santiago de Chile). The present report covers the period 1995-1998.

Participation in conferences and other meetings

CLADEM representatives have participated in the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen), in the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing), and in the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (Rome). CLADEM participated in the fifteenth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (New York), in the fortieth, forty-first and forty-second sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York), in the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions of the Commission for Social Development (New York) and in the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva); also in CEPAL's seminar on "Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: CEPAL's proposals and the role of the civil society" (Santiago), in the first Follow-up

Regional Conference on the World Summit for Social Development of CEPAL (São Paulo) and in the VII CEPAL Regional Conference on Women's Integration in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago).

Statements

During the Fourth World Conference on Women, CLADEM delivered a declaration that was distributed to all the official delegates. The areas of concern were women's human rights, with emphasis on violence against women, sexual and reproductive rights, political participation and the right to development.

CLADEM issued a declaration backing the document proposed by the Supervisory Committee for the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, specifically addressing the justice of the norms contained in this instrument and the right of the groups and organizations to present statements and denunciations. Likewise, the governmental delegates of the countries of the region were requested to vote in favour of the Optional Protocol.

In the 1998 session of the Commission on Human Rights, CLADEM managed to introduce the Organization's Human Rights Declaration from a Gender Perspective proposal as an official document presented by a non-governmental organization in consultative status (E/CN.4/1998/NGO/3).

In five countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Panama and Peru), the organizations that are part of CLADEM have established monitoring instruments for their Governments on compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women ("Convention of Belem do Para") and the Beijing Platform for Action. Likewise, CLADEM Mexico Central South Zone participated in the elaboration of the shadow report of that country to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

Cooperation with programmes, bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations

Meetings were held with the delegates of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to coordinate how to carry out the follow-up of the Optional Protocol to the Convention, as well as how to achieve a more active participation in the writing of the shadow reports. We designated our regional coordinator as a member of the list of experts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. We had permanent contact at the meeting in Brazil and in general we remitted information for the elaboration of her reports to the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences. We held meetings with the delegates of the Division for the Advancement of Women on the implementation and follow-up of the platforms for action of the World Conferences. We also sent information to the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

In 1998, we initiated the coordination with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat, for the presentation of the shadow reports from Colombia and Chile which would be presented to CEDAW in 1999.

Other relevant activities

Our organization held its regional seminar entitled "Women's Human Rights in the World Conferences" where more than 60 women of the region (from civil society and governmental delegations) discussed the advances and setbacks in these events and also planned action strategies for the coming years related to the follow-up and monitoring of the final documents in our countries.

CLADEM's regional coordinator contributed to the United Nations publication entitled *Universal Declaration of Human Rights Fifty Years Later: Accomplishments for Victim/Survivors and for the Prevention of Victimization*, "Viewing the international human rights system from the perspectives of victim/survivor" (chap. 19).

CLADEM participated in the experts meeting on domestic violence called for by the Division for the Advancement of Women.

It is rightful to say that CLADEM's main activity during these years was a regional campaign on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with the double purpose of, on the one hand, educating on human rights and, on the other, soliciting United Nations incorporation of women's human rights and the gender perspectives in a new international instrument. CLADEM elaborated various support materials for the campaign and the contents of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as its proposal of "Contributions to the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights", in 17 countries of the region and in other regions. Within the framework of this campaign, several CLADEM representatives interviewed the Director of the Division for the Status of Women and the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, to whom were handed over 41,792 personal signatures and 343 institutional memberships collected up until that day. The interview took place on 10 December 1998 with the presence of the Chief of the Gender Analysis Section of the Division for the Advancement of Women. The issues reviewed were: the functioning of the network and the political-strategic significance of CLADEM's campaign entitled "Without women, rights are not human". Their commitment was to deliver the signatures, as well as the above-mentioned declaration, to Kofi Annan, Secretary-General, and they suggested also that CLADEM try to introduce the subject through the Commission on the Status of Women.

Publications

The magazine entitled, *The Wall and the Labyrinth*, published by the organization, discusses the results of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995. With this magazine, it is CLADEM's intention to highlight, taking as a starting point the role of the organization, the aspects that CLADEM has considered more relevant in terms of information as well as analysis, aside from this being useful as raw material to transform whatever has been achieved on international grounds into a local reality.

CLADEM published the brochure entitled *Human Rights for the XXI Century: Contributions to the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights from a Gender Perspective*.

Pamphlets, brochures and other campaign material for *Human Rights for the XXI Century: Contributions to the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights from a Gender Perspective* were printed.

CLADEM published the book *Summit Meetings, Consensus and Later ... Women's Human Rights in the World Conferences*.

Membership

CLADEM has liaisons and national contacts in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay and Venezuela.

8. Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

The Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC) was established on 30 January 1980. It is the largest non-governmental organization in the Islamic world working in the field of human settlements. OICC is a non-political organization. Its main goal is to achieve sustainable development in its member cities. Its main objectives are to: strengthen bonds of friendship, brotherhood and solidarity among member cities; promote, develop, and expand cooperation among member cities; preserve the identity and heritage of member cities in accordance with their socio-economic, cultural, and environmental characteristics; and upgrade the standards of public services and utilities in member cities. Since its first affiliation with the Economic and Social Council in 1991, OICC has been promoting the United Nations principles and related activities, particularly those of Agenda 21 and the Habitat Agenda. This has been achieved through intensified activities with the United Nations and other international organizations. These activities, of which a selected number are listed below, have been undertaken through OICC bodies including the General Conference, Administrative Council, General Secretariat, Cooperation Fund, Training Centre for Development, and Technical Cooperation Programme. OICC has strong and active relationship with all major international and regional local government non-governmental organizations. OICC has resident representatives to the United Nations in New York and Rome. OICC has sat on the Executive Committee of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) since 1992. Moreover, the organization maintains active relationship with the Arab Towns Organization, the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA), the United Towns Organization (UTO), the World Assembly of Cities and Local Authorities (WACLA), the African Towns Association and the Islamic Development Bank (ISDB). OICC developmental efforts have included multifaceted joint activities with its member cities, the United Nations system, national and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and funding agencies. OICC has attended the preparatory meetings of the major United Nations conferences since 1992. It also attended the United Nations conferences in Rio, Vienna and Istanbul. Moreover, OICC is also dedicated to the promotion of the protection of climate through its Declaration on Climate Change and its cooperation with ICLEI.

The organization's representatives:

(a) Attended the United Nations/Department of Public Information/non-governmental organizations weekly briefings in New York (1995-1998);

(b) Attended the third, fourth and seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York (1995, 1996, 1998);

(c) Attended World Habitat Day meeting, New York, 2 October 1995;

(d) Participated in the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) preparatory regional meeting, Rabat, Morocco, 25-30 September 1995;

(e) Participated in the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) Dubai International Best Practices Award meeting, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 19-22 November 1995;

(f) Attended the United Nations workshop on the mechanism for non-governmental organizations inputs into the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Geneva, Switzerland, 2 March 1996;

(g) Participated in the Arab Group preparatory regional meeting for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), Amman, Jordan, 11-14 March 1996;

(h) Attended the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, Turkey, 3-14 June 1996;

(i) Attended the United Nations/Department of Public Information/non-governmental organizations Annual Meeting, New York (1995-1998);

(j) Attended the ESCWA session, Amman, Jordan, 25 and 26 March 1997;

(k) Attended the 19th Special session of the General Assembly, 23-28 June 1997;

(l) Participated in the UNDP International Conference on Governance and Sustainable Growth and Economy, United Nations, New York, 28-30 July 1997;

(m) Attended the World Habitat Day meeting, United Nations, New York, 6 October 1997;

(n) Attended the regional conference on the Habitat Agenda entitled "Local Perspective, Media Forum, and Sustainable Urban Environment", United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, Beirut, Lebanon, 6-8 October 1997;

(o) Participated in the Mayor's International Forum on Cities and Desertification, United Nations/IFAD, Rome, Italy, October 1997;

(p) Attended the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements Training Workshop on the Use of Urban and Housing Indicators, Amman, Jordan, 27-30 April 1998;

(q) Attended the fourth United Nations Centre for Human Settlements Regional Arab Conference on Partnership and Capacity-Building as Foundation for Urban Sustainable Development, Cairo, Egypt, 22-25 June 1998;

(r) Attended the Habitat Day celebrations and meetings in Rabat, Morocco, and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 5 October 1998;

(s) Attended the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements Regional Conference on the City and the Twenty-first Century Challenges, Rabat, Morocco, 5-7 October 1998;

(t) Attended the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP4) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 3-14 November 1998;

(u) Participated in the Lead Poisoning Seminar, United Nations, New York, 23 May 1997;

(v) Participated in more than 50 events throughout the world held by a variety of regional and international agencies other than the United Nations throughout the period 1995-1998 on issues related to United Nations agendas.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies was as follows:

(a) The Organization initiated, co-sponsored, and implemented, jointly with the former Department for Development Support and Management Services of the United Nations Secretariat, and the Egyptian Ministry of Local Government, the "International Seminar/Exhibition on Geographical Information Systems (GIS), City Sustainability and Environment, Cairo, Egypt, 9-14 December 1995;

(b) The Organization produced a CD-ROM for the United Nations/Department for Development Support and Management Services/OICC International Seminar/Exhibition on GIS, City Sustainability and Environment, Cairo, Egypt, 9-14 December 1995;

(c) The Organization cooperated, co-sponsored and participated in the reparation and resource mobilization of the United Nations/World Bank International Round Table on Transportation Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development, April-December 1998 (the Round Table was held in Cairo, Egypt, from 4 to 7 December 1999).

Other relevant activities:

(a) The organization re-initiated its request to UNESCO for consultative status in May 1998;

(b) The organization continues expanding its global membership, which has reached 143 cities, as well as producing its regular publications.

9. World Safety Organization

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Introductory statement recalling aims and purposes

The following report recounts some of the activities of the World Safety Organization (WSO) at the United Nations for the quadrennial period 1995-1998. It is recalled that the purpose of WSO since its founding in Manila in 1975, reaffirmed when it relocated to the United States of America in 1985 during tumultuous times in the Philippines, has been to internationalize the safety and accident prevention movement and spread as widely as possible throughout the world the benefits of

practices, skills, arts and technologies of safety and accident prevention. Protection of people, resources, environment and property has always been the major focus of WSO activities and programmes. WSO is a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian, multidisciplinary, multicultural international professional organization working in the public interest. It receives no support from any sources other than membership dues, conference fees and publication, professional attire and accessories income.

Summary of WSO activities on behalf of the United Nations for the period 1995-1998

WSO has global professional interests in safety, health and environmental protection. Therefore, for example, WSO has participated in conference proceedings (notably the sixth session of the Commission for Sustainable Development) and Dr. Seiden, WSO Main Representative, has made various contacts with ILO, UNDP and other agencies. As time progresses, WSO would hope to contribute to substantive United Nations concerns consistent with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, part IV, paragraphs 28-32, and part V, paragraphs 34-39. Paragraph 39 entitled "Special studies" is of particularly critical interest to WSO since WSO has organizational expertise and commitments in safety, health and environmental protection, which are significant areas of concern to diverse United Nations agencies, programmes, organizations etc.

WSO has applied for reclassification from special to general consultative status. Its original application was submitted in 1998, and a second one in 1999 after the first was evidently lost during renovation and relocation of various offices at the United Nations. It is understood the application will be acted upon in June 2000.

Public information and relations are "substantive" areas of United Nations concern since, on balance, it is largely through civil society grass-roots outreach programming of the United Nations that groundwork is laid for later application of United Nations resources around the world to solve international problems. In this spirit, Dr. Seiden has written extensively on behalf of WSO as its main representative to the United Nations.

He produced a limited-edition manual for WSO distributed within WSO and the United Nations entitled *The United Nations: A Managerial Focus and Framework for Understanding* in addition to a much more expansive one for the education of WSO-United Nations representatives. A copy of each was deposited in 1998 with the Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Resource Centre. His small brochure, also written for WSO for general distribution is entitled *What is the United Nations and What's in it for US? The Work of the United Nations and its Benefits to the United States*. Both of these publications were offered to various offices at the United Nations for their unlimited use. The larger manual was entitled *Operations, Resource and Training Manual for WSO Representatives and Liaison Officers to the United Nations*.

Also in preparation since 1997, recently completed and submitted in May 2000 to Dr. Hanifa Mesoui of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for her approval prior to presentation of a copy by WSO to the Secretary-General is the manuscript for a new book completed by Dr. Seiden entitled *Problem-solving in the Third Millennium: The Ergonomics and Management of Problem-solving*. This book addresses a pervasive problem-solving "virus" which he terms "defeatability proneness".

A unique programme originally conceived by him several years ago (late 1998) but only recently inaugurated owing to the pressures of business is a tour programme, whereby groups of people representing various non-governmental organizations are bussed to New York United Nations Headquarters. Dr. Seiden provides a 15-20 minute briefing on the United Nations en route to the United Nations. Two tours of this type were finally programmed and conducted in 2000. They basically include a tour of the United Nations combined with a luncheon in the Delegates Dining Room. Where feasible, there is an emphasis on those works included in the United Nations art collection that are publicly accessible. Thus, this particular programme will span two quadrennial reports, namely, 1998 and 2002. It is envisioned that the programme concept and preliminary procedures manual will be bequeathed by WSO to the Department of Public Information for its use in encouraging other non-governmental organizations to participate in such a programme and implement it in their own areas. (Dr. Seiden has arranged such tours thus far for local New Jersey groups.)

Some WSO publications contain references to the United Nations including one WSO tech letter containing an article on sustainable development prepared by Dr. Seiden for the WSO membership. In 1995, two tech letters and one news letter carried articles on the United Nations. These are related to its origins, milestones and achievements, and support for the United Nations by WSO on the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. In 1998, Dr. Seiden made a kick-off presentation on the United Nations at the WSO Twelfth Annual World Safety and Accident Prevention Congress in Dallas, Texas.

WSO has conducted Global Safety Round Tables at its Annual World Safety and Accident Prevention Congresses and publishes the proceedings thereof. It publishes an International Consultants Directory annually and its newsletters, during the period 1995-1998, have carried articles on occupational health and safety in a multicultural environment, child safety from a global perspective, radiation processing in public health: the potential in Ghana, overview of the current activities of the European Community in the field of injury and accident prevention, safety management in Czech plants, moving into the Asia-Pacific region? a corporate checklist for health planning, emergency response, safety training for Russian oilfield workers, WSO Board of Certified Governmental Safety and Environmental Health Officers etc. There also have been various articles on WSO certification programmes and boards, which are international in scope.

In addition to the above, WSO representatives have attended various weekly Department of Public Information/non-governmental organizations briefings. Owing to pressures of time and personal commitments, these have had to be carefully selected on the basis of relevance to WSO priority interests. Although the WSO world view is panoramic, it has been virtually impossible for any WSO representative to attend more than, perhaps, one meeting a month on average, even in the case of Dr. Seiden who, however, has been able to schedule greater coverage when required including, for example, attendance at every meeting of the sixth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. His predecessor main representative, Mr. Larry Gell, attended virtually every briefing and videotaped them while he was active at the United Nations on behalf of WSO. These videotapes are filed in the Department of Public Information/non-governmental organizations Resource Centre in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library building.

In 1998, a logo designed by Dr. Seiden was offered to the Commission on Sustainable Development for consideration as its own logo. Although WSO has not been contacted by the Commission as yet, WSO hopes that it may ultimately prove to be of interest to either the Commission on Sustainable Development or the United Nations generally. This logo is believed by WSO to be descriptive of the sustainable development process and its holistic integration of people, resources, technology and the environment for the "world good".

During 1998, Dr. Seiden prepared a product safety standard for WSO entitled "World Safety Standard on Product/Physical Safety — WSO/PPSS 01.1-1998". Copies of this standard were distributed at the 1998 World Safety Congress referred to above. The standard not only incorporates provisions relating to the "Standard Rules of Practice (ROP) for Safety and Accident Prevention", but also emphasizes the human factors and ergonomics approach to safety problem-solving. Consistent with the overarching United Nations focus on human rights, the Standard contains the following specification in its definition of ergonomic design: "... ergonomically acceptable designs incorporate, among other things, human rights content".